

Gene  
Van Sickie,  
W9KJF



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AUGUST 1961

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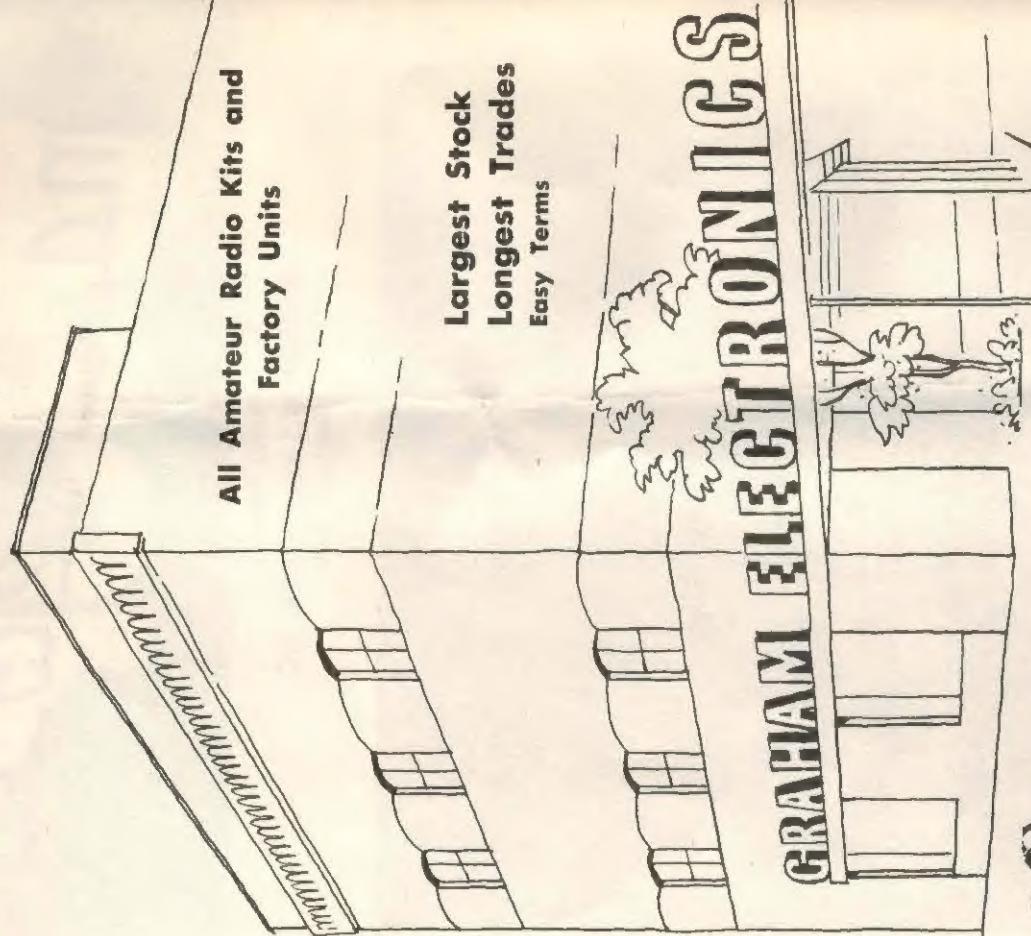
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The Indianapolis Radio Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month at the Indianapolis Park Board Building located at 29th and Harding Streets. Meetings start promptly at 8:00 P.M., Indianapolis time.

### AMA-CHEWER STAFF

PRESIDENT	Bert Brouse 6995 Barrwill Drive	K9JSF CL 5-9282
EDITOR	Lee Easley 4219 Guilford	K9QDR AT 3-7494
PUBLISHER	Pat Husk 2223 East 74th Street	K9EUQ CL 3-2220
MANAGER	Alvey Pittman 2555 Westlane Road	W9JJC AX 1-9252
REPORTERS	R. Caskey D. McVicker R. Osterhous	W9DNQ W9JZV W9PSE
PHOTOGRAPHER	Frank Fitch	W9EJW
TECHNICAL ADVISORS	Fritz Manning Cliff Singer	W9VPN W9SWD

\* \* \* \* \*

Ama-Chewer is published monthly by and for I.R.C. and all Amateurs in this area. Non-Members of I.R.C. may subscribe at the rate of \$1.00 per year.

Publication is on the 3rd Friday of each month, with all news items and ads due no later than the 1st Friday of each month.

Ham-Ads (5 line limit) are free to members and subscribers. Others may use this facility at the rate of 50 cents per ad.

Ama-Chewer welcomes the forwarding of information on coming events of other clubs in the area for publication in the program section.

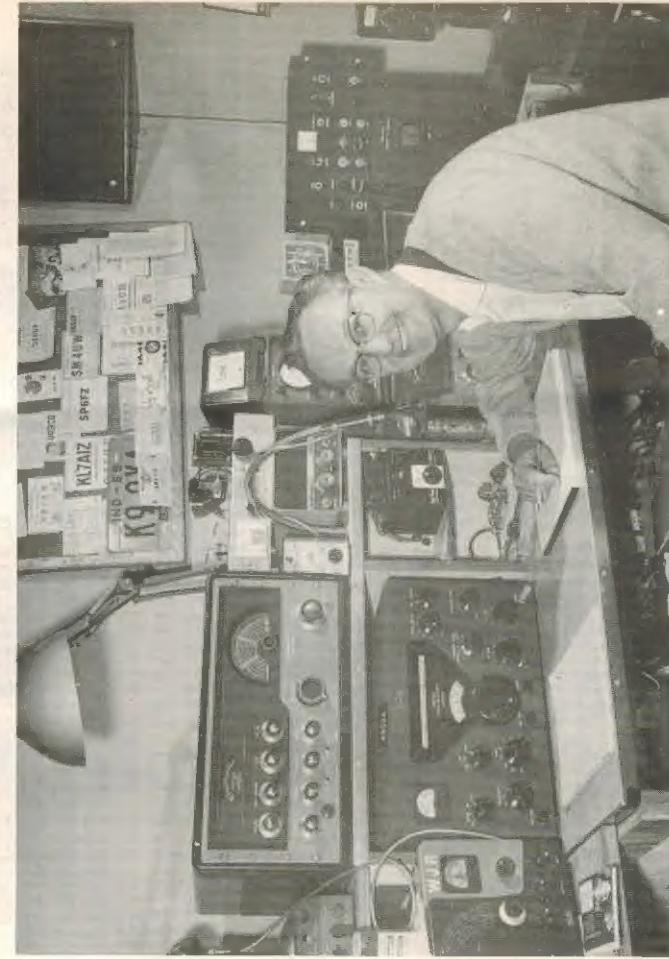
\* \* \* \* \*

## MAX GALLOWAY K9OXA HAM OF THE MONTH

As you can see from the photo, Max is a ham who believes in using only the best. Having the distinction of being one of Indianapolis' largest traffic handlers for the South Pacific area and also being a past official observer for the ARRL, Max definitely knows his way around the Ham bands. The amount of equipment shown in the picture is only a small portion of this man's ham shack. Mobile, he uses an SR-34 into a twin stacked two meter and six meter halo. Mounted on a fifty-five foot tower, Max' collection of beams includes a tri-bander, a six meter beam and a two meter beam. He also has several dipoles running to the house for his wife to hang clothes on!

Our Ham of the Month is not only a good phone man, but a precision high speed CW man. Using a Hallicrafters TO keyer to kick the carrier of that beautiful HT-37A, Max beams his signal into all corners of the world.

It would be worthwhile for any ham, but especially a Novice, to drop in on Max some evening, relax and watch a master operate his rig.



## 20 YEARS AGO

In 1941, the Ama-Chewer announced the FBI would be at the Club. No, not for something done by or at the Club, but to tell the Club members how radio was used and checked by the FBI. Bob Kryter, then with the Esterline Angus Company, was to present a program on the Strobotact.

Someone hadn't gotten the word as Ama-Chewer reported that Roland Pruitt and Nelson Trusler were the only ones in attendance at the Club on July 4th. After calling the meeting (?) to order, they read books in the Clubs library and worked the rig.

Men going to the Club included, Ken Bash-W9EVY of Carthage, Indiana; Robert Pollitt-W9IAG of Indianapolis; Lynn Woodward-W9DLF of Greenfield; Otis Armstrong (Smoky Joe)-W9DCW of Pendleton, Indiana; George Merritt who received his call W9UDQ shortly after making the membership roll, was from Brownsburg. Charles Schleger, Jr.-W9CJH of Indianapolis also was welcomed into the Club. It must be noted in passing that 160 meters played a great part in this widespread membership. Listed as receiving calls was George Merritt - above - and Charles Campbell-W9UEM, who had been mimeographing the Ama-Chewer for the past seven months. It was said that he was on the air two days after receiving the call.

To substantiate the previous month's report, it was reported that Bob Stuart-W9AXH, and the former Miss Louise Wildason were married, honeymooned in Colorado Springs and were then residing at 4130 N. Meridian St.. Wedding bells tolled again that month as it further reported that Don Davis, W9JYP and Miss Ruth Kissell were married at the home of W9YMV, Leroy and Becky Waggoner on Thursday, July 3rd. They went to the Northern Indiana lakes district for a short honeymoon preliminary to a two week vacation into Canada later.

Don Davis heralded the Field Day just past as a great success. In fact, he even went further to say it was a four star attraction. Four kinds of pie were served at the Field Day picnic activities.

Tower Raising at VPN's. Fritz Manning had been reported as thinking that he was missing five meter signals that were slipping under his "Plumbers Delight" so he planned to up a 54' tower and atop that affix his home brew "Clipper Fritz's Continuous Rotation Three Element Beam Antenna Tower for Five Meters". The report stated that the name might seem

Photo by K9WJR

(continued on page 7)

## AMATEUR RADIO DOES IT AGAIN

"The moral of the story", said Jim Coffey, "Give us freedom and we will prove to the world that our heart goes out to them without a thought of compensation".

Eli Lilly, Delta Airlines and Amateur Radio Operators all teamed up to rush desperately needed medicine to dieing patient in South America.

"It all happened something like this", said Jim Coffey a local Amateur Radio Operator. A very new Drug produced by Eli Lilly was urgently needed for a dieing patient in Caracas, Venezuela. Dr. Raul Vera of the same city in South America, having heard of the new drug originated an emergency call thru a Caracas Amateur Station (YV5BFD) which was picked up by a Florida station (W3AXU/4) who immediately declared an emergency on the frequency and started sending out C.Q. calls for an Indianapolis Amateur Radio station. Jim Coffey, 3925 Moller Road, (K9SIF) a local Amateur station intercep-  
ted the call and copied the urgent instruction relayed from Venezuela. Jim then called the main office of Eli Lilly and was advised to contact Mr. Howard Hensley who was on emergency standby for his company. Mr. Hensley then contacted Mr. Oberlis, Export manager of Eli Lilly International Corporation, the Export Division of the Lilly Company and things began to happen fast. Mr. Romero Diaz a Lilly translator was summoned to duty. Transportation experts went to work and in less time than it takes to tell this story the precious drug was on its way to the Delta Air-  
lines, where special handling had already been arranged by Delta. This precious package was dispatched from Captain to Captain of each leg of the flight till it reached its final destination, Venezuela, less than 24 hours later.

"It was not just as simple as it sounds", said Jim Coffey. There were problems to overcome. It seems the precious drug which is a Cancer drug known by the Generic name of Vinblastine Sulfalte, distributed in the United States and Canada but had not yet been made available in Venezuela. This would have required many days delay for a dieing patient, but as in many cases before, give our local firm the problem and a free hand and they will come up with the answer. The whole problem was handled by Lillys Export manager, Mr. Oberlis by sending the precious Viles on a no-charge basis.

Then there was the problem of dosage. Since Lilly does not prescribe, a local physician, Dr. Richard Dyke was called in and the urgent instructions were sent by Amateur Radio to Dr. Vera in Venezuela. The first contact was made on Sunday, September 3, at 14:03 to 14:26 and the second contact at 16:00 to 16:30 to advise the matter was being handled promptly. The third and final contact was at 18:00 to 18:32 at which time the precious little Viles were well on their way.

TWENTY YEARS AGO (continued from page 5)

\* \* \* \* \*

### GRAHAMS SPECIALS OF THE MONTH

HEATH DX 100 .....	\$145.00
B & W LINEAR.....	\$295.00
HQ-110 RECEIVER.....	\$174.00
NC-183D RECEIVER.....	\$237.00
HQ-180 C RECEIVER.....	\$370.00
SX-100 RECEIVER.....	\$220.00
HT 33 (LINEAR) .....	\$325.00
EICO 720 .....	\$ 69.50
CENTRAL ELECTRONICS 20-A.....	\$245.00

\* \* \* \* \*

### FOR SALE OR TRADE

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\* \* \* \* \*

## "STOP THAT DIGGING!"

"Stop digging, your shovel is fouling up my signal", must sound a bit on the crazy side, but things in the future may make this a factual complaint.

As a means of providing reliable "survival" communications in case of enemy nuclear attacks and partly as a means of relieving the over crowded spectrum, experiments are under way to develop an underground radio system.

The experimenters have found that a dry layer of sedimentary rock bounded by wet conductive layers acts as a natural wave-guide.

Raytheon engineers have transmitted signals in the 200 kc area, using 100 watts at distances up to eighteen miles. In New Mexico, radio teletype signals were transmitted at a distance of 1000 feet down in the earth in the 15 to 40 kc range using 200 watts and having a reported range of slightly more than one-hundred miles.

Now, if you are wondering why this system is worth all the experimental effort, keep in mind the fact that such deep current systems operating in wave-guides, insulated from the earth's surface by several conductive layers are quite invulnerable to jamming, man-made noise, and atmospheric disturbances.

You will be hearing more of this phase of advancement in radio, and in the meantime, if you are digging in your garden, be careful not to disturb those radio signals.

TNX to Ben Marcel, K9IUE

\* \* \* \* \*

## SUGGESTION BOX

The winter months are coming, though realizing 10 meters is not so hot, why not sort of re-activate 29.4 mc for local rag-chews?

H.M. Peterson (Pete)  
W9ZRK

\* \* \* \* \*

NOVICE NEWS

The 80 meter Novice band at present, is a static-crashed, QRM'ed jungle.

Despite the annoying QRN, many fine business rag-chews and new contacts are to be found. The usual gang on 3745 kc., are on seven days a week for a good "fat chew". Many new novices are on lately, and the "old" guys are quick to call a lonesome, wandering, new novice for a welcome to the band.

It is amazing to watch "n's" disappear from the familiar novice call. Some of the new generals still hang around those good ole 50 kc. but too many of them leave for the greener pastures of the general bands. So please, you generals, go ahead an get on phone 'cuz we envy you for it. But don't forget to give us novices a call now and then. We like those fast keying generals, especially if they are young, good looking, male types.

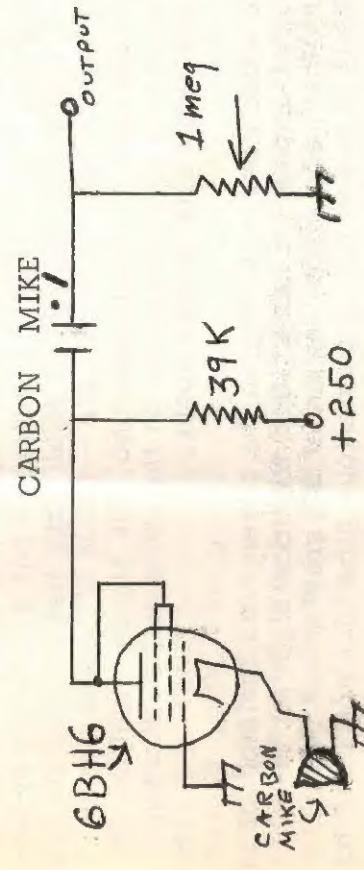
K9DNY, Ken, received his General Class license Saturday, July 15th. Congratulations Ken.

Kn9DHF, Les, has a brand, spanking new vertically polarized antenna and, believe it or not, it is still in the air a month later.

Kn9ZGR, Ray, is back home pounding in a fine business signal to Indianapolis.

Gretchen Wolfra, Kn9BHH

\* \* \* \* \*



By 1911 standards, you could brag about your receiver if it was a "loose coupler", particularly if it was a "store bought" job like the one on the cover. There was something about the green silk insulation on the wire that just made it a thing of beauty. The shiny brass slider bar, the big binding posts and particularly the switch and contact points on the front of the sliding secondary, emphasized the mystery of the dawning "wireless age". The mere mention of the fact you had a pair of 2000 ohm Brandes (always pronounced "Brandeze") headphones, brought respect for you.

The loose coupler or simply slide tuner, probably did more to advance the Quaker Oats Company than any advertising. In what few construction articles you could then find, it would not be unusual to read, "400 turns #20 DDC wire close spaced on a Quaker Oats box . . . . ."

The crystal detector and its "cat whisker" was sometimes a stubborn thing. Reception of any signal required first that the point of the "cat whisker" rest not too lightly and not too tightly on a sensitive spot of the carefully preserved piece of Galena. Movement of 1/32" inch could make the difference in hearing or not getting a signal. Sometimes you would find a really "hot" piece -- lots of sensitive spots -- and you would take it over to a friends house to let him try it. You never touched it with your bare fingers, either -- this ruined the sensitivity. (What if someone could have pulled out a modern diode?)

Today's youngsters don't experience the thrill of "actually hearing something through the air without any wires at all!" There is, of course, no longer a mystery associated with it as there was then. It was no effort -- but a thrilling experience -- to sit motionless, squeezing the headphones to your aching ears to hear faint signals -- code of course, from many miles away. Sometimes, too, the signal might be so loud you could lay the phones on the table and still copy! That was something to brag about.

The loose coupler shown on the cover, was the product of the Duck Company, a name filled with nostalgia for the old-timer. How many of you remember the graybacked Duck Catalogue crammed full of mysterious gimmicks and parts for wireless sets? The coupler and the Brandes headphones,

( continued on Page 11 )

belong to Elmer Marchino, W9PCL, and crystal detector is a "Murdock" and belongs to Jerry Lucas, W9APJ.

We had it hooked up and it works -- WIBC from one end to the other!!! But who expected, then, that we would have to separate 200000 ham signals. Anyway, it was -- as we said--a thing of beauty and a joy to possess.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### SPLATTER

Man, what is this crazy noise we hear about Mr. Ice Cream, Cliff Alsop, being on six meter AM with a new Communicator IV? I do wish these crazy SSB cats would either grow goatees or cut the scene!

\* \* \* \* \*

Back from a two month tour of the wilds of Europe, particularly France, is Jack, K9VTS! Some night at club meeting, why don't you give us a talk on those French girls?

\* \* \* \* \*

Is it really true that Rick Hibbs, K9KSP, commonly known to the clan as "King-Kong", has an 811 buried in the middle of his desk?

\* \* \* \* \*

The Staff of the Ana-Cheuer regretfully announces that Ray, K9TQE, at Columbus, Indiana, is leaving the air to join the U.S. Navy. (Ed. Note: See you in Berlin, Ray!)

\* \* \* \* \*

Has anyone been able to hear Chuck, K9UDW's, new six meter Motorola FM rig on the air? Ha, Ha, Ha!!!

\* \* \* \* \*

#### VAN SICKLE SPECIALS

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RME VHF 126 . . . . .	\$169.00
NATIONAL NC 183-D . . . . .	\$239.00
HEATH SENECA 6 and 2 . . . . .	\$149.00
RME PRE SELECTOR DB-23 . . . . .	\$ 39.00
NATIONAL NC 188 . . . . .	\$ 99.00
GLOBE SCOUT 680 . . . . .	\$ 49.00
JOHNSON ADVENTURER. . . . .	\$ 39.00
JOHNSON CHALLENGER. . . . .	\$ 79.00

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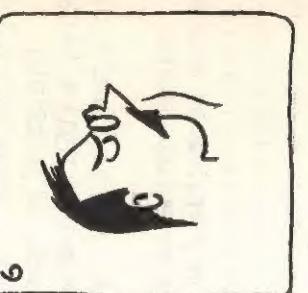
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